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Court Probe of Ray Role In King Slaying Is Urged

Two religious groups have launched separate efforts in behalf of a probe of the role of James Earl Ray in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The priests' senate of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Memphis, where King was slain 10 years ago, has asked for such a probe "to relieve the doubts in the minds of many people" about the assassination of the civil rights leader.

At the same time a black United Methodist pastor the Rev. James Lawson, now of Los Angeles but formerly of Memphis, has convened an interfaith group dedicated to securing a full court hearing of the matter.

The interfaith committee suggested that a court hearing might produce testimony "from persons who have additional information about Dr. King's death but who have never been required to place it on the record."